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19 January 1970

MEMORANDUM FOR: DDP/TRO

SUBJECT : Comments on Visit [REDACTED]
14 - 15 January 1970

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1. I found the visit to [REDACTED] to hear about various DDP training programs to be most worthwhile, and I am very pleased for having had the opportunity to go. I now have a much better understanding of how training is organized and what the various courses consist of. All the speakers were quite good and the schedule moved along at a good pace. I strongly believe there should be more exchanges of this type as branch chiefs and desk officers in the DDP should pay more attention to training - be aware of its content - and consistently help to improve it in order to turn out a better product.

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2. I have the following suggestions and comments to make:

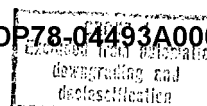
a. Perhaps more time could be devoted to a general discussion of training problems. We were just getting to it at the end of the day when time ran out. I got the feeling the [REDACTED] did not really have a firmly planned presentation for the last hour, and while the period was informative it might be useful to have a general discussion period. I had some questions I would have liked to ask, but the right opportunity never seemed to arise.

b. The Phase II briefing was interesting, but perhaps it could be shorter. I realize we were piggy-backing on a scheduled presentation to the Phase I class so I assume the next meeting will not have the Phase II presentation in exactly the same form. Reducing the Phase II briefing may provide more time for the general discussion recommended above.

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25X1A c. To take fuller advantage of the smoker, would it be more productive to formalize it a little more? Perhaps the first hour or so could consist of group discussion where the day's speakers can be available in the front of the room [REDACTED] and the visitors can ask questions of general interest to the group. The time period for this should be fairly well controlled in order to prevent the session from becoming too freewheeling and therefore counter-productive.

d. It might be useful to send schedules to the participants a few days before the meeting so they have a better idea what to expect and can perhaps think of some questions they would like covered.

e. Finally, and they may get tired of hearing it, high marks should go to the [REDACTED] Staff for their consistently fine hospitality. I always enjoy a visit there and part of this is due to the fine treatment accorded all visitors.

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3. In summary, a useful and informative 24-hour period. Such sessions as this should assist in the steady improvement of our training programs.

[REDACTED]
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